

**KANSAS ADULT CARE EXECUTIVES ASSOCIATION (KACE)**

**Tuesday, January 24, 2012**

**Phyllis Kelly, Executive Director**

(Oral and Written Testimony – Proponent)

Testimony before the House Aging and Long-Term Care Committee on HB 2471. An Act concerning adult care homes; relating to the board of adult care home administrators; amending K.S.A. 2011 Supp. 65-3506 and repealing the existing section.

Chairman Bethell and Members of the Committee:

I am Phyllis Kelly, Executive Director of the Kansas Adult Care Executives Association (KACE). Our professional Association represents adult care home executives in nursing homes and assisted living facilities throughout Kansas. I appear before you today in support of HB 2471.

The KACE Board of Directors has reviewed the components of HB 2471. The Board concurs that the proposed legislation would result in a fair and objective nomination process of the adult care home administrators serving on the Board.

HB 2471 puts into statute the informal process that has occurred over the past several years to nominate the licensed adult care home administrators to serve on the Board. The Executive Directors of the two associations representing the for-profit homes and the not-for-profit homes; and the executive director of the professional association for the licensed administrators and certified operators would each select an administrator who possessed exemplary qualifications and expressed an interest in taking their time to serve on this Board. With this informal nomination process, we have been able to assure that experienced administrators of a high professional caliber are serving on this very important Board for the industry and the residents who reside in our adult care houses in Kansas.

In reviewing the appointment process of board members for other licensing boards in the area of healthcare, the proposed nomination process for the adult care home board is in concert with these boards. In fact, some of the Boards were even more prescriptive in their nomination process. The proposed language clearly defines how the nomination process will occur and leaves the final selection of the Board members to the Governor's discretion.

In support of HB 2471, we would ask you to consider the following points:

- By stating that a proposed Board member must represent the not-for-profit homes and the for-profit homes, the Board is assured of a balanced and equitable representation of the industry. Problems and issues unique to each type of home ownership and management will have a voice on the Board, as well as, the professional concerns of training and licensure of the administrators.
- By allowing the three associations to nominate the Board members, the credentials of these persons will be exemplary with a recognition for high integrity and leadership in the field. For the past six years and during the current year, the Chair of the Board has been one of the three adult care home administrators serving on the Board. The Board looks to

these three members for assistance on regulatory issues and educational needs relating to the effective administration of an adult care home.

- By specifically defining the nomination process of the adult care home administrators, changes in association staff and governmental administrators will not have an effect on the selection process which assures a balanced and quality representation.

We urge your passage of HB 2471.